(d) The revival/rehabilitation of sick MSMEs is undertaken by the primary lending institutions (including commercial banks) in terms of guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time. For this purpose, the RBI has issued detailed guidelines to banks in January, 2002 on detection of sickness in MSEs at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick MSEs identified as potentially viable. The RBI has also issued guidelines on 8th September, 2005 relating to debt restructuring mechanism for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), based on the "Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to SMEs" announced by the Central Government on 10th August, 2005.

The Standing Advisory Committee on Flow of Institutional Credit to the MSME sector in RBI had observed in January, 2007 that there was considerable delay in rehabilitation/nursing of the potentially viable units, mainly on account of the inability of the promoters to bring in additional contribution. Consequent to this, a Working Group on 'Rehabilitation of Sick SMEs' was constituted to look into the issues and suggest remedial measures so that the potentially viable sick units could be rehabilitated at the earliest. Based on the recommendations of the Working Group, the RBI has advised all scheduled commercial banks on May 4, 2009 to consider, for speedy implementation, the recommendations made with regard to timely and adequate flow of credit to the MSE sector. The banks have also been advised to apply the RBI's guidelines on debt restructuring optimally and in letter and spirit and put in place their own non-discretionary one-time settlement (OTS) policy for this sector.

Ending of vendor system at stations

†*212. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways is contemplating to end the vendor system at various railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the system to be started in place of the existing vendor system;

(d) whether Railways propose to give employment to the existing vendors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir. However, the commission vendors/bearers who were earlier engaged on commission basis in the erstwhile railway departmental catering units, are being absorbed in the railways progressively.

(e) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi